



ADDRESSING THE NEEDS OF SOLDIERS AND  
FAMILIES IN THE GUN DEVIL BATTALION.  
OCTOBER 2010



# 3-319th AFAR

## *Gun Devils*



Gun Devil families, Friends and Paratroopers,

It is truly a privilege to serve as the commander of the best Battalion in the Army. I am humbled to be a part of the Gun Devil team. The Gun Devils have a proud and distinguished history with another successful chapter added this past

year in Iraq. Be assured of my dedication and devotion to this Battalion and every one of its Paratroopers. You and your families are important to the Army, this organization and me.

In the coming months we will train hard on our traditional war fighting skills and be prepared to execute any mission when called upon. The uncertainties of war and our upcoming mission, requires the Battalion to remain adaptive and flexible. We must prepare to deploy at a moment's notice anywhere by parachute assault or air-land. To succeed in preparing for the Global Response Force we must train smart and train hard. The Gun Devil Team must be totally committed to this task. It is our solemn duty and responsibility to make this our highest priority.

Although training for combat is our highest priority, the demands of multiple deployments have caused strains in many families. Therefore, we must maintain a balance between work and family. The Gun Devil leadership must ensure that our Paratroopers achieve that balance. Michelle and I understand the importance of families and the delicate balance between work and our loved ones. Strong families enable your Paratrooper to excel at their profession, which in the end enables the organization to accomplish anything.

I look forward to the months ahead. Thank you for the dedication and support you give to your Gun Devil on a daily basis.

Strike Hold!!  
LTC Dave Pierce



USMC Booy L. Love  
Command Sergeant Major 319 AFAR



# Support

## *FRSA*

It is absolutely amazing to me that I have been with this Battalion for, almost, 2 years! So much has happened. We have prepared for a deployment, our soldiers deployed, prepared for redeployment, our soldiers returned and now so many of our soldiers and families are leaving to go on to other assignments.

As the unit experiences a

high rate of turnover in the next few months, I wanted to take a moment and let you know one of the best aspects of the Family Readiness Support Assistant (FRSA). As command teams come and go, the FRSA remains in place allowing for some level of continuity in the ever changing Army world. This position was created to allow families to know that with all of the changes inherent within the Army life the Army realized there was a need for con-

tinuity.

So, as the months pass, know that if you need something and are not sure where to turn, who your FRG leader is, or just need a little help finding where something is—don't hesitate to get in touch with me.

Melissa.l.patterson@us.army.mil  
Office: (910) 908-0074  
Cell: (910) 849-7205

*Melissa*

## *Pies for Patriots*

Each year MWR helps host an event called Pies for Patriots. A local donor has donated cases of pies for families on Fort Bragg. This year they are operating a little differently.

On the 28th they will have a unit, bulk, pick-up. I have reserved 30 cases (10 pies each case) of cherry pies for our families. I will work with the S3 & XO to have people & vehicle(s) available to pick them up at Pike Field. They will be here

for pick-up later that day. I do not have an exact time, as they will be assigning times for units to pick-up. Families will be welcome to come and pick-up a cherry pie. If any pies/cases remain after the 28th distribution, individual families will be able to pick-up on the 29th. That will not be necessary for our BN as we will have pies available for distribution.

I have also reserved 30 cases of Pumpkin pies for November and in

December will reserve 30 cases of Apple. Each pick-up will follow the same pattern. Once we set-up final distribution details from the BN - I will email that out to everyone so you can arrange to pick-up your pies. We should have more than enough for anyone wanting one to get them. General guidance will be those wanting a single pie will have the first opportunity and those wanting more will wait till later in the day.





# HHB



Dear Paratroopers and Families of HHB 3-319TH AFAR,

After a well deserved homecoming and extended rest following the Battery's successful deployment in support of OIF, it is time to get back to business. Once again, the troopers of HHB are being called upon to support the Battalion as we prepare for our core artillery mission of delivering fires in support of the BCT.



Much has changed in the unit since we redeployed just two months ago. We have had to say goodbye to dedicated members of the HHB team as they have moved on to other things in their lives and careers. Their contributions and personalities will be missed in their absence. We have and will continue to welcome new members to the Hardcore family as troopers enter our ranks. The Battery resides in a new headquarters and barracks. Finally, new senior leaders have taken over key positions within the Battery and continue to lead and mentor our troopers to the same standard that this unit is known for.

I encourage all the present Troopers and families of the Battery to welcome the new members as we reform our ranks and prepare for the next series of challenges that this Battery will face. The Battery is also seeking dedicated spouses to assist our FRG as the Battery moves into the future. Crystal Prater has done an outstanding job as the FRG leader, but will be leaving us as her husband is moving to another Battery. Other positions such as treasurer and key callers will be in need to provide support to the families of the Battery.

Our next FRG meeting will be on 19 October at 1830 (6:30 PM). I am asking for maximum participation as we begin to shape the FRG into what you as families want and require of the organization.

First Sergeant and I would like to send congratulations to all the new paratroopers that within the last few month just received promotions, birthdays and reenlistments.

## Farewell

CPT Byus  
CPT Kelly  
CPT Neely  
CPT Lloyd

## Welcome

MAJ Hayes  
MAJ Davis  
CPT Ford  
SSG Raley

## Hardcore Promotions

**SEP:** SPC Raynor SPC Collins  
SPC Cherry  
**OCT:** SGT Barnett

FA PLT went back to the Firing Btry Thanks for a job while done!

**New Little HARDCORE Gun Devils**  
SPC Hernandez, **Baby Girl**

## Hardcore Happy Birthday's

**SEP:** SFC Earl, PFC Caruso, SPC Raynor, PFC Powell, SPC Hurley, CPT Cleland, PFC Nyenkan

**OCT:** PFC Cornelios, CPT Langdeaux, SFC Charkhtabian, SPC Cherry, SSG Clifford,  
SPC Pattengale



# Alpha



Alpha Battery returned home to a joyous crowd on 29 and 30 July 2010. Our loved ones warmly greeted us as we landed at Green Ramp. It was an occasion to be remembered. The battery reunited with friends and family and quickly went back to work, participating in the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division Change of Command ceremony a week after returning home. Additionally, Alpha Battery paratroopers were bombarded with a barrage of reintegration classes and training to include the Basic Airborne Refresher course quickly followed by airborne operations. We went back to our airborne roots as we jumped into the wild blue! The Battery also restructured itself from a maneuver unit to a firing unit. With this restructuring came many new paratroopers to the battery. We welcome 1SG Michel and all the new paratroopers that have joined the Rock Team! I know everyone is eager to make the transition back to our original Field Artillery mission. PFC Abrian Bouie deserves a shout out for graduating the Army's Basic Airborne School. Welcome to the Airborne Community! A farewell goes out to 1SG Scott and all the paratroopers who PCS or ETS following our return from OIF; best of luck in your next assignment or future endeavors.

After a few weeks of being home, Alpha Battery was granted a much deserved leave. The time off aloud paratroopers to further reunite with family and loved ones and finally take a break from the strenuous tasks of the deployment cycle. After returning from block leave, Alpha Battery paratroopers once again hit the ground running. We moved our office to a new building, unloaded containers, and prepared for the Battalion Change of Command Ceremony. Many paratroopers enjoyed the 3-319<sup>th</sup> Airborne Field Artillery Regiment All-Ranks Ball on 7 October 2010. The Ball was an excellent opportunity for Paratroopers of all ranks to spend a night out with their significant other and experience some of the Army's time-honored traditions. Some of the Alpha Battery Paratroopers recently had the experience of earning their foreign jump wings by participating in the Federal Eagle Airborne Operation, which consist of conducting an Airborne Operation with a team of German jumpmasters from a German aircraft. Additionally, Alpha Battery paratroopers also proudly represented 3-319<sup>th</sup> and the 82<sup>nd</sup> by participating in another Airborne Operation into the Little Rock, Arkansas Air show.

The next few months are going to be challenging and rewarding as the Battery is preparing to begin training on all their MOS specific artillery tasks. Mobile Training Teams (MTT) from Ft. Sill, the home of the field artillery, will come to Ft. Bragg to assist in the training. Paratroopers will be hard at work learning and relearning our original field artillery mission. In conjunction with this training, the Battery will continue to hone their airborne proficiency, while preparing new key leaders to attend the jumpmaster course at Ft. Bragg's advanced airborne school. Again, I would like to thank all of the families for their continuous support to their paratroopers and 1SG and I look forward to meeting you at our next Family Readiness Group (FRG) meeting.







# Bravo



Since arrival back from Iraq, Bravo Battery has been in very busy! When Bravo returned, we received a hero's welcome at Green Ramp. We want to thank all family members for welcoming us back into the United States and the continuous support shown by friends and family during our deployment to Iraq in support of OIF 09-10.

Directly after arriving from Iraq, Bravo Battery used the weeks prior to block leave to get situated in the new battery area, located in the old second brigade building complex. Additionally, Bravo Battery participated in the Division Change of Command welcoming Major General Huggins as the new Division Commander.

After a refreshing block leave, Paratroopers of Bravo Battery returned to work motivated and ready to start training on their traditional mission of Field Artillery. During the deployment, Bravo's primary role was Infantry. With the recent arrival of howitzers, troopers have begun to brush up on the art of Artillery.

Additionally, since return from block leave, Bravo has started a new physical training program at Tucker gym. This new program incorporates crossfit and strength training to help build even stronger Paratroopers.

In the weeks to come, troopers have the post-deployment ball to look forward to. This is a chance for the Paratroopers to bring their spouses and enjoy the 3-319 AFAR family. These balls are a time honored tradition that has always been a good time for Paratroopers. Also, coming up is the Battalion change of command. LTC Thompson is departing the Battalion after serving as the Battalion Commander.

The coming weeks are going to be filled with the men of Bravo Battery continuing to train in core Artillery tasks in anticipation of assuming the GRF. With the holiday season around the corner, morale is high because of the chance to spend time with family after being away during the last holiday season. Here at Bravo Battery we are a family and we take care of each other. Feel free to contact us at anytime.



# Golf



**BACK TO WORK!** The Gorillas are truly excited about being home with our families and block leave was enjoyable, but it is time to get back in the swing of things and return to our “garrison” routine. The best aspect of the company’s return is the reintegration of all the Gorillas that were attached to the line batteries before and during the deployment, as well as several Gorillas that were on Rear-D. The company is working hard to reorganize to our traditional authorization. We also received several new additions, which means the old have to make room for the new. We are sad to see some of our longstanding members of the unit leave and will miss them all. Many Gorillas will continue to leave over the next several months. To every departing Gorilla and their family, thank you for your service to Golf Company and know that you will be missed. Considering the large turnover that is occurring, we are readjusting well and back on the road to mission success.

Being back at Fort Bragg means that our 92G (Cooks) can go back to doing what they do best... cooking. The Gorilla cooks returned to work on Monday October 4<sup>th</sup> and have already been praised for the incredible job that they are doing at the Brigade Dining Facility. Maintenance platoon has been hard at work ensuring that the motor pool is ready to support the battalion at any time. The Distro platoon has been moving the battalion’s containers returning from deployment and prepping equipment for upcoming training support. In the next several weeks we will also be participating in the Little Rock Air Force Base Air Show, both Battalion and Brigade Change of Commands, PMCS-L Certification Course, Unit Master Drivers Course, as well as ensuring that all weapons go through SARET (Small Arms Readiness and Evaluation Teams). Though it may feel like we are at times just as busy as we were overseas, it’s always nice to know that at the end of the day we get to go home to our families. Thanks for your continued support!

## Welcome

1SG Ventura  
SPC Lapena  
PFC Johnston  
PV2 Garnett

SFC Cruz  
SGT Nutt  
SGT Robinson  
SGT Olson  
SPC Campbell

## Welcome Back

SPC Contreras  
SPC Gutierrez  
SPC Ocasio  
SPC Pierce  
SPC Zegarra

SPC Luther  
SPC Ramos  
SPC Britton  
SPC Juneau  
SPC Costello

## Newlyweds

### PCS

1LT Barnes  
CW2 Rabbett  
SSG Ponnequin  
1SG Henderson  
SPC Ramos  
SFC Daniels  
SPC Owens  
SSG Cole  
SPC Currie

## ETS

### Inter-post transfer

SSG Figueroa  
SGT Ferreira  
SGT Whitson  
SPC Biles  
SGT Rice  
SPC Ramos  
SGT Smidga  
SPC Collins  
SPC Schmidt







# Good to Know

## *Free Childcare*

Don't think that your free childcare benefits stop just because you have returned from deployment. Soldiers returning from deployment still benefit from 16 free hours of childcare for 90 days following return from theater!

There is another benefit that many families are not aware of. Child, Youth, School Services (CYSS) offer Fabulous Fridays and Super Saturdays. These are days that parents, regardless of deployment status, can receive free childcare. Dates vary but

the times are generally the same. Fabulous Fridays are normally from 1900 (7 p.m.) - 2200 (10 p.m.). Super Saturdays are normally hosted from 1000 (10 a.m.) - 1500 (3 p.m.).

It is always recommended to register your children with CYSS in case of emergency. The process is free and now that you can initiate registration online, it is becoming more streamlined. Visit <http://www.fortbraggmwr.com/welcomecenter.php> for online appointments, pre-registration,

etc.

If you are already registered and have your hourly care packet from CYSS then you can contact the facilities directly. For 6 weeks—Preschool call Fernandez at 396-4733. For School age you will contact Wonderful World of Kids at 396-2011.

Rodriguez Child Development Center (CDC) is open for hourly care until 2000 (8 p.m.) on Tuesdays and Thursdays. For reservations call 432-2273.

## *Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASIST):*

Soldiers, Family Members, DA Civilians, Contractors and Volunteers are invited to register to attend Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASIST). ASIST is a two-day intensive, interactive and practice-dominated course designed to help people recognize warning signs and know how to intervene to prevent suicide.

ASIST is the military approved suicide intervention training. It is designed to help

"gatekeepers" become more willing, ready and able to help persons at risk. Gatekeepers are individuals who, in the performance of their duties deal with Soldiers, Family Members and DA Civilians on a daily basis. Suicide can be prevented with the help of prepared individuals. Just as "CPR" skills make physical first aid possible, training in suicide intervention develops the skills used in suicide first aid.

Class dates are: 29-30 Novem-

ber; 9-10 December and class time is from 0830-1700 each day.

To reserve a seat contact the Suicide Prevention Program Managers:

Emilee Owens, 910-432-0068, [emilee.owens@conus.army.mil](mailto:emilee.owens@conus.army.mil) or Larry Holland, 910-907-0054, [larry.holland1@conus.army.mil](mailto:larry.holland1@conus.army.mil)



# Good to Know

## *On-post Childcare Fees to Change*

WASHINGTON, July 30, 2010 - The Defense Department is adjusting its child care fees, adding categories for its highest income earners, to compensate for six years without fee range increases, Pentagon officials announced today.

The department's Military and Community Family Policy Office has added three categories to the top of its fee schedule to go into effect by September 30, Barbara Thompson, director, office of family policy, children and youth, said during an interview with American Forces Press Service and The Pentagon Channel. Each service will issue specific fee guidelines, including exceptions to the fee schedule, and adopt fees within the policy office's ranges, she said.

The adjustment brings the number of fee categories to nine, causing some people to move into different categories, Thompson said. In the previous fee schedule, which has been in effect since 2004, everyone with a total family income of \$70,001 or more was in Category VI – the top level – and paid an average of \$124 per child per week, she said.

Under the new schedule, families with a total family income between \$73,501 and \$85,000 will be in Category VI and will pay between \$122 and \$130 per child per week, still under \$3 per hour for a 50-hour week, Thompson said. Here is the new fee schedule:

- Category I – incomes of \$29,400 or below – will pay between \$44-\$59 per week;
- Category II – incomes from \$29,401 to \$35,700 – will pay between \$60-\$74 per week;
- Category III – incomes from \$35,701 to \$46,200 – will pay between \$75-\$90 per week;
- Category IV – incomes from \$46,201 to \$57,750 – will pay between \$91-\$105 per week;
- Category V – incomes from \$57,751 to \$73,500 – will pay between \$106-\$121 per week;
- Category VI – incomes from \$73,501 to \$85,000 – will pay between \$122-\$130 per week;
- Category VII – incomes from \$85,001 to \$100,000 – will pay between \$131-\$133 per week;
- Category VIII – incomes from \$100,001 to \$125,000 – will pay between \$134-\$136 per week;
- Category IX – incomes of \$125,001 or above – will pay between \$137-\$139 per week.

There is a high cost option for installations that meet specific criteria due to the high cost of living and high staff salaries.

Military child care is known as a model for the nation, and funding is evenly split by fees and federal subsidies, Thompson said. The increased fees are necessary to maintain high quality of care, she said.

The changes come after two years of study that found the fees were not keeping up with inflation and family income, Thompson said.


"We understand that these are tough economic times for families, but we did this very deliberately after careful study," she said. "When you look at what you're getting for your child care fees, it's a wonderful opportunity in a high-quality care environment."

For more information visit: NMFA website: <http://www.nmfa.org>





# October 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 FREE CHILDCARE 1900—2200	2 FREE CHILDCARE 1000—1500
3	4	5	6	7 Gun Devil All Ranks Ball	8	9
10	11 	12 FRG Treasurer & Key Caller Training 432-3742	13 Battalion Change of Command	14 FRG Essentials 1800—2100 432-3742	15	16 Volksmarch 0900—1500 Smith Lake 396-1218
17	18	19 HHB FRG Meeting BN HQs 1830 (6:30)	20	21 MWR Auction 1000 396-0802	22	23 FRG Training 0800—1430 432-3742
24	25	26	27	28 Tentative date Pies for Patriots p/u	29 BOSS Halowscreem III 396-7751	30 Halloween Observance for Ft Bragg & Cumber- land Cnty
31		AFTB Level II—396-2382				



# November 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4 BN FRG Meeting 1830 (6:30) 908-0074	5 FREE CHILDCARE 1900—2200	6 FREE CHILDCARE 1000—1500 FRG Training 0800—1430 432-3742
			AFTB Level I—396-2382			
7	8	9 FRG Key Caller Treasurer Training 432-3742	10	11 	12 TRAINING HOLIDAY	13
	AFTB Level III—396-2382					
14	15	16	17	18	19	20 5K Walk/Run 396-1217
21	22	23	24	25 	26 TRAINING HOLIDAY	27
28	29	30				
		AFTB II				





# December 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2 FRG Essentials 1800—2100 432-3742	3 FREE CHILDCARE 1900—2200	4 FRG Training 0800—1430 432-3742
			AFTB Level II—396-2382			
5	6	7 FRG Treasurer 0900—1100 432-3742	8	9	10	11 FREE CHILDCARE 1000—1500
12	13	14 FRG Key Caller 1800—2000 432-3742	15	16	17	18 5K Walk/Run 396-1217
19	20 1/2 Day Schedule Begins (Tentative)	21	22	23	24 TRAINING HOLIDAY	25 
26	27	28	29	30	31 TRAINING HOLIDAY	





**VFRG Website: [www.armyfrg.org](http://www.armyfrg.org)**

**Facebook: Search 3-319 Airborne Field Artillery Regiment**

